

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 5, 7, and 9-20 were pending in the present Application when examined, all of which stand rejected. Claims 10 and 13 are canceled. Claims 7 and 17 are amended. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection to the remaining claims.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 9, 10, 12 to 14, and 17 to 19 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Holmberg et al. (US Patent No. 5,668,032) and Kim (US Patent No. 6,861,665). Claims 7, 16, and 20 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Holmberg et al. and Kim and further in view of Nakamura et al. (US Patent No. 6,621,537).

Claims 1, 2, 5, and 7: Claims 1, 2, 5, and 7 distinguish over Holmberg and Kim because the combination of the two references fail to disclose “the widths of the first and second common bar are different.” Regarding this limitation, the Examiner states

Kim teaches (e.g. Column 3 Lines 32 to 36) that the resistance of the common (i.e. shorting) bar is dependent upon its width, the wider the bar the lower the resistance. Holmberg et al. teach to adjust the resistance of the common bars to provide ESD protection and allow testing during manufacturing (Column 6 lines 48 to 60). Therefore one of ordinary skill in the art would have the common bars of different width to provide ESD protection and allow testing during manufacturing as taught by Kim and Holmberg et al.

However, while the Examiner states that “Holmberg et al. teach to adjust the resistance of the common bars to provide ESD protection and allow testing during manufacturing “ the quoted section clearly states that the “provide ESD protection and allow testing during manufacturing” feature is actually provided by “the magnitude of the resistors 103, 106, 108, and 110” (see also fig. 106) and is not related to the resistance of the shorting bars. The section of Holmberg cited by the Examiner (Column 6 lines 48 to 60) only discloses that the shorting bars have “a resistance on the order of 15 to 20 ohms” and are “connected in series by a plurality of resistors.” Furthermore, neither Holmberg nor Kim discloses “the widths of the first and second common bars are different.” In Holmberg, Figure 1, for example, clearly shows that the shorting bars are each of the same width. Holmberg does not disclose altering the width of the shorting bars to be different. For Kim, while the reducing the resistance of the shortening bars is understood to be one of the objectives, the invention reduces the resistance of a shorting bar by forming the test pads for the odd numbered data pads in the same region

as test pads for even numbered data pads (see col. 3 lines 43-49) and not by altering the widths of the shortening bars to be different. Therefore Kim does not disclose “the widths of the first and second common bars are different.” Figures 3, 6, 7, and 8A of Kim each clearly shows that the shorting bars are of the same width. Therefore, the combination of Kim and Holmberg fails to disclose or provide suggestion to all limitations of Claims 1, 2, 5, and 7. Applicants respectfully request the rejections be withdrawn.

For Claims 9, 11-12, and 14-20: Claims 9, 11-12, and 14-20 each depends from an allowable base claim 1, 2, 5, or 7, and are patentable at least for the reason of dependency. Nakamura et al also fail to cure the deficiency of Kim and Holmberg. Applicants respectfully request the rejection to Claims 9, 11-12, and 14-20 be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 081394 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time and/or fee for additional claims, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) via the USPTO's EFS/ Web electronic filing system on August 13, 2009.


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